

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Not for submission under 37 CFR 1.99)

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Application Number | 10/591,185 |
| Confirmation Number | 7748 |
| Filing Date | June 28, 2007 |
| First Named Inventor | Shinichi WATANABE |
| Art Unit | 2855 |
| Examiner Name | Jermaine L. Jenkins |
| Attorney Docket Number | Q96708 |

U.S. PATENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No | Patent Number | Kind Code ¹ | Issue Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|---------|---------------|------------------------|------------|---|---|
| | 1 | | | | | |

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No | Publication Number | Kind Code ¹ | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|---------|--------------------|------------------------|------------------|---|---|
| | 1 | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No | Foreign Document Number ³ | Country Code ² | Kind Code ⁴ | Publication Date | Name of Patentee or Applicant of cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁵ |
|--------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|------------------|---|---|----------------|
| | 1 | 0371755 | EP | A2 | 1990-06-06 | SUMITOMO RUBBER INDUSTRIES LTD | | |
| | 2 | 0456437 | EP | A2 | 1991-11-13 | SUMITOMO RUBBER INDUSTRIES LTD | | |
| | 3 | 0545681 | EP | A1 | 1993-06-09 | SUMITOMO RUBBER INDUSTRIES LTD | | |

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | T ⁵ |
|--------------------|---------|--|----------------|
| | 1 | | |

EXAMINER SIGNATURE

| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through a citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.USPTO.GOV or MPEP 901.04. 2 Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 3 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 4 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 5 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.